

From: Robert Crull
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 4:48pm
Subject: Microsoft Antitrust Settlement

Robert John Crull
400 Breckenridge Dr. #4
Huntsville, Al 35802

Attn: Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Suite 1200, Antitrust Div.
Dept. of Justice
601 D St. NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Sirs:

As a US citizen I am going on record as being opposed to the proposed anti-trust settlement with the Microsoft Corp. It is inadequate to punish them for past monopolistic practices and will not prevent them from engaging in future anti-competitive activities.

Any fair settlement that protects the rights of the consumer and a strong competitive US economy must do two things.

-Microsoft must be forbidden from entering into exclusive agreements with computer hardware vendors that forbids those vendors from selling computers with non-Microsoft-based computer operating systems. They must also be forbidden from entering into agreements that, while allowing computer vendors to place alternative operating systems on their hardware, require that the Microsoft OS always be the primary boot-up operating system.

-Microsoft must be forced to publish all the data required to allow non-Microsoft programmers to write applications that interact with the Microsoft computer operating systems. There can be no secret or hidden access to the Microsoft operating system that only Microsoft applications writers are aware. Such hidden code gives the applications division at Microsoft an unfair advantage in writing their software.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Robert John Crull

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